

1 Remarks

2 Amendments to the claims

3 Claims 18, 20 and 21 have been amended, and claims 16, 17 and 19 have
4 been cancelled, as indicated above. Specifically, claims 18, 20 and 21 have been
5 rewritten in independent form, to include all of the limitations of the base claim, and
6 any intervening claim, from which they originally depended.

7
8 Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

9 Claims 16, 17 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being
10 anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,923,445 ("Leou").

11 Claims 16, 17 and 19 have been cancelled, and therefore the rejection of
12 those claims is now moot.

13
14 Allowable Subject Matter

15 Claims 1-15 and 22-38 have been allowed.* Claims 18, 20 and 21 have been
16 objected to as depending upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as being
17 allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim, and any
18 intervening claim, from which they originally depended.

19 As indicated above, claims 18, 20 and 21 have been amended to put them in
20 allowable form. Accordingly, the Applicant requests that the objection to these
21 claims be removed and the claims be allowed.

22 *The Applicant notes that 39 claims were filed with the original application, as
23 evidenced by the published application (see U.S. Patent Application Publication No.
24 20030081267), yet the Office action only indicates that 38 claims are pending. The
25 Applicant believes that the Examiner inadvertently forgot to list claim 39, but would
have allowed claim 39 as claim 39 depends from claim 35, which has been allowed.
(It is axiomatic that a claim which depends from an allowed claim is also allowable.)

1 The Applicants agree with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability
2 of the indicated claims, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the
3 Examiner's reasoning. In particular, the Applicants believe that the indicated claims
4 are allowable because the prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the
5 invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

6
7 Fee For Extra Claims

8 The fee for two (2) additional independent claims is to be charged to
9 Applicant's deposit account, as indicated on the attached Transmittal form.

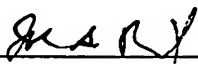
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11 Summary

12 The Applicant believes that this response constitutes a full and complete
13 response to the Office action, and therefore requests that the Office issue a Notice of
14 Allowance for claims 1-15, 18, and 20-39. The Examiner is respectfully requested to
15 contact the below-signed representative if the Examiner believes this will facilitate
16 prosecution toward allowance of the claims.

17
18 Respectfully submitted,

19 Charles Eric CANTWELL

20
21 Date: October 14, 2005

22 By 
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